

Hospital and Industrial Relation Bills are negation of fundamental trade union rights

—Comrade Prithish Chanda

Comrade Prithish Chanda, President of the United Trade Union Centre (Lenin Sarani) has released the following Press Statement on 7.5.88 :

"The Congress(I) Government has once again shown that it is bent upon attacking the working class by negating the fundamental democratic and trade union rights of all sections of workers and employees.

The passage of the Hospital and other Institution bill through the Rajya Sabha and doing the same through Lok Sabha by brute majority is a naked attack upon all medical, para-medical staff and other employees of hospitals, nursing homes, as well as teaching and non-teaching staff of all educational institutions right from primary to university level and also of all research institutions. The attempt has been there from 1982 when there arose

strong protest from the Trade Union movement. In the name of redressal of grievances, after the verdict of the Supreme Court that the I.D. Act very well applies to universities and all institutions where employer - employee relation exists, the government planned to deny the concerned employees their right to organise unions and to go on agitation including strikes.

The bill when it comes into force will throw tea-

chers, doctors, nurses and other employees at the mercy of capricious management, authorities and government and render them helpless.

Similarly the Congress (I) Government is arming itself with authoritarian powers to suppress all strikes and working class movements including the right to collective bargain, and right to form unions, and choose its leadership by going to pass the Industrial Relation Bill through the Industrial Dispute Act Amendment Bill. This bill seeks to impose management sponsored or backed unions on the unwilling workers. Stringent penal

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Black Hospital Bill : Demonstration in Delhi

On 11th May, 1988, the Delhi State Committees of the All India Democratic Teachers' Organisation (AIDTO), All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO), Medical Service Centre (MSC) organised a protest rally and a day-long 'dharma' on the Boat Club lawns against

the black "Hospital and other Institution Bill."

The rally at Boat Club was addressed by Prof. Narendra Sharma, Amritlal Chakraborty (AIDTO), Pratap Samal, Tarun Bose (AIDSO), Dr. Jaswant Singh (MSC). The speakers vehemently protested against the sinister design of the Union Government, revealed through

this bill, to suppress the fundamental rights of the people in general and workers and employees in particular.

Later, in a memorandum to the President of India, the protesters requested him to use his "Good office to stop this bill being passed and not to give it assent in any case."

the government should have come forward with appropriate measures to fight out corruption, inefficiency and wasteful expenditure associated with the management of the public transport. But instead of adopting this correct approach to weed out the breeding ground of rampant corruption, wasteful expenditure, the AGP Government came out with a roughshod measure to shift the entire burden of the administrative failure on to the shoulder of the common people, who are already groaning under the wheels of capitalist state machine. Who does not know of the corrupt practices prevailing in the Assam State Transport Corporation (ASTC) for long which is eating its efficiency daily and is making records for wasteful expenditure for years together? Why the people

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ASSAM

SUCI builds up sustained movement against bus fare hike

The message of the just concluded historic First All India Party Congress of our party, the SUCI, has begun reaching far and wide. Everywhere, in tune with the spirit reflected by the Party Congress, our party has taken initiative, single-handedly if necessary, to build up democratic mass movements embracing people's burning problems. Unleashing a spate of mass movement to thwart the AGP Government's steep bus fare hike, our party has plunged itself headlong single-handedly and is now in the vortex of people's resistance movement giving it lift to a still higher stage.

On the first day of March last the AGP Government, with its pro-capitalist policies, all of a sudden came out with 41 per cent price hike for all categories of bus routes. There was no earthly reason for such increase in bus fares, far

less to speak of such an unheard of price increase. Analysing the state of affairs of the management of the public conveyances like buses plying on roads in Assam, our party has shown that before coming up with the fare increase

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May Day Observed

The battle of May Day still is on since that bloodbathed day dating back to more than hundred years when the struggling workers flew high the blood-soaked apparel of the compatriots killed. The struggle of the working class still continues unabated as the emancipation of the revolutionary class all over the world remains unfulfilled yet. And this battle becomes more difficult, harder still, because the spate of revisionism weakens the revolutionary movements from within, obstructing the working class to deal its final blow to imperialism-capitalism.

So, May Day returns every year, as in this year too, with newer significance, demanding of us greater grasping of revolutionary Marxism through intensifying the two-fold struggle — movements outside in society against capitalism - imperialism and battle inside the class against revisionism.

This view prompts the UTUC(LS) to observe May Day with proper solemnity and dignity. The news of observance which have reached our office so far are given below :

BOKARO (Bihar)

Bokaro Steel Central Workers' Union (UTUC(LS)) observed May Day on 1st May at Ritudih Maidan. Com. A. K. Sinha presided over the meeting.

Com. Anil Sarkar, Secretary, Bihar State Committee, UTUC (LS), was the main speaker. In his speech, he observed that May Day was the day to take vow anew for struggle for emancipation from capitalist exploitation. But various organisations did observe this day. The

UTUC(LS) and all other Left trade unions did the same. But the objectives of different organisations differed widely, even fundamentally. While Congress (I) did so only to befool the people and drag them into the quagmire of legalism-opportunism, the CITU, the AITUC, even as they raised radical slogans, acted as compromising force between labour and capital, renouncing the path of revolution. Com. Sarkar also pointed out that development of trade union movement under true revolutionary leadership ultimately was the guarantee to free the working class from the capitalist cries and its concomitant vices.

Com. Mohan Chowdhury, Vice-President of the Bokaro Steel Union said that the occasion of May Day was a great event in the history of workers' movement that still inspired the workers to fight against exploitation.

Com. R. S. Sharma, General Secretary of the Union, observed that broadbased united movement was imperative to overcome the present critical situation. But one was constrained to observe that when an appeal was made to the CITU for holding a joint meeting on May Day occasion, they refused. Not only that, when long before it was announced that the meeting of the Steel Union would be held at BSL Jhopri Colony maidan, the CITU arranged their meeting at that very spot. So, this meeting of the UTUC(LS) was held at this spot. 'Such things seriously hamper united movement', Com. Sharma observed.

(Contd. on page 2)

MAY DAY OBSERVED

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Allahabad (U.P.)

This year also the May Day Committee of Allahabad which included the UTUC(LS), the CITU, the AITUC, the Shramik Solidarity Forum, Public Sector and Private Sector Union Joint Committee, took a 15 day-long programme. About ten factory gate meetings and a seminar were organised from the forum of May Day Committee. On behalf of the UTUC(LS) Com. N. K. Sharma participated in every meeting and also in the seminar. He appealed to the working class to build up a united, Left, democratic, secular and all Opposition platform to launch mighty movements against the danger of fascism. Com. Sudhansu Kr. Malviya also spoke at the seminar.

May Day was observed on 1st May under the auspices of the SUCI in front of the Allahabad party office. Com. Sarad presided over the meeting. Com. Ankur, Com. Bipin, Sri Biswas, a lecturer and others spoke at the well-attended meeting.

On 2nd May a joint rally was held in which the UTUC (LS), CITU, AITUC and other such organisations of Allahabad took part.

BELLARY
(Karnataka)

The Bellary District Unit of the UTUC(LS) participated in the May Day programmes organised by the Committee for May Day Celebrations which comprised, besides the UTUC(LS), the CITU, the AITUC and local trade unions.

A very well-decorated procession was taken out which marched through the streets of Bellary. Members of Street Hawkers' Organisation, affiliated to the UTUC(LS) and also KKMS members, inspired the bystanders.

Filling the air of the whole city with militant slogans on workers' unity, May Day and against the NSA, ESMA and other black Acts, the procession-

ists reached the Dr. Ambedkar grounds, where a public meeting was held.

At the meeting three resolutions condemning closures, price hike and Industrial Disputes Act were adopted.

Leaders of different trade unions spoke on the historic significance of May Day. Com. Ganapathi, in-charge, Bellary dist. UTUC(LS), urged the workers to uphold proletarian internationalism and gave a clarion call for building up united movements towards a fundamental change.

SONEPUR (Orissa)

May Day was observed with great enthusiasm on 1st May at Sonapur of Bolangir district, Orissa. The Sonapur Spinning Mill Workers' Union affiliated to the UTUC(LS) organised a mass meeting which was presided over by Com. Govinda Maharana, a mass leader as also the General Secretary of the Union. The meeting started with one minute's silence remembering the workers who sacrificed themselves on the historic May Day hundred years back and started a great movement. Homage was also paid to all worker-martyrs who have laid down their lives while fighting against capitalism.

The three resolutions adopted unanimously demanded abolition of unlawful lockout from Aska Spinning Mill, stopping Baliapal Missile Base and stopping installation of ultramodern machines in Kalarangi Mines in Sukinda area of Cuttack district.

Com. Kapila Mishra, an important organiser of the SUCI, who spoke at the meeting called upon the working people to rally round the UTUC(LS), overcoming their weaknesses, to strengthen the working class movement. He observed that May Day was the day to take pledge to frustrate the all-out attack coming from the management and the counter union affiliated to the INTUC.

Then Com. Govinda Maharana highlighted the role of Sonapur Spinning Mill Workers' Union to safeguard the workers' interest. In every movement led by the Union, the INTUC was always striving to disrupt the workers' unity. The INTUC was moving hand in glove with the management. Com. Maharana cautioned about this conspiracy. He called upon the workers as well as the common people to fight against the management's nefarious design to declare lock-out at the Sonapur Spinning Mill. The management would have to face grave consequence if it resorted to lock out.

Com. Maharana emphasized that May Day was not a ritual. It called for a rapid development of working class movement against the capitalist class exploitation. He urged the working class to play its vanguard role in leading revolution through to success.

Sagar (M.P.)

Under the auspices of the Kakaganj Local Committee, SUCI, a mass meeting was organised on the eve of the May Day.

Addressing the gathering Com. D. C. Atri, member, Sagar District Committee of the SUCI, pointed to the crisis ridden capitalist system as the root cause of all the problems of working class and the common people in general. 'Capitalism is the main enemy of the toiling people', he said, 'without overthrowing it, it is impossible to redress the people's miseries.' He urged the people to learn lesson from the historic fight of the May Day martyrs and to organise democratic mass movements over the various issues afflicting the people's life on a course conducive to anti-capitalist socialist revolution.

Com. O. P. Shrivastava presided over the meeting.

SUKINDA

United movement against Congress(I) terrorism

Workers and peasants of Sukinda have been waging a stubborn resistance movement under the leadership of the SUCI against organised hooliganism and terrorisation by the Congress(I) hoodlums who are being backed by the mines owners, police and administration. Trade unions other than the INTUC have joined hands in this struggle.

Over the years the Congress(I) has been trying to break the mine workers' movements in this area. They got strong rebuffs every time. Recently, in a desperate bid to get a foothold in this trade union field, they struck a preposterous agreement, through its local youth wing, with a big public undertaking, the Orissa Mining Corporation, in order to get recruited youths under its fold. Protest by the Sukinda Upatyaka Mine Workers' Union against this clandestine agreement went unheard and Congress(I) began to assault workers of this union. On 12th April last Cong.(I) goondas numbering about 500 attacked a number of workers with lethal weapons, injuring several of them. Com. Shiv Shankar Sethy, Joint Secretary of the union, was brutally assaulted. The police and administration are backing the goondas openly instead of bringing the culprits to the book. They have arrested a number of union activists and SUCI organisers under fake charges.

In view of the gravity of the situation the local SUCI unit took initiative

to unite all democratic forces, Opposition parties and trade unions who strongly condemned the fascist move of the Congress(I). Struggle committees are being built up from the grass root level.

Incidentally, Sukinda is suffering from a severe spell of drought. Due to negligence and indifference of the Government and the local administration more than one lakh of poor peasants, khetmajdoors and retrenched miners are suffering hard. As discontent is growing among the people, the Congress(I) Government of the State is fanning up narrow regionalism to get the people entangled in fratricidal fanaticism and conflicts, with the help of owners the Government and the Congress(I) are trying to disrupt the unity of the working people.

To frustrate this heinous design workers, peasants and other sections of the toiling people of the Sukinda Mines area are preparing themselves to carry on a protracted struggle under the leadership of the working class.

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24TH APRIL IN STATES

Call To Unite To Resist Fascist Onslaughts

The 40th anniversary of the party foundation has been observed in different parts of the country, wherever there is organisational activity. Imbued with the message of the First Congress of the party, comrades spread out to different corners to rouse the people to be conscious of their task and carry out the same. Campaign, sale of party literature and fund collection went on for weeks before 24th April, and workers, peasants, youths, students, women, teachers, office employees and other sections of the toiling people assembled at rallies at State capitals, towns, villages and mohallas to observe the occasion. Guard of honour was presented, march pasts held and the *Great Leader of the Proletariat* sung. Leaders of the party analysed the international and national situations and explained the task of the people to achieve the objective. From Punjab to Kerala and Assam to Gujarat a new tide has begun to rise, a new song of life begun to fill the air.

In the last issue the speech of beloved General Secretary, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, at Ghatsila and a report on the observance in Calcutta were published. Reports from several other States are given below.

MAHARASHTRA

At Ranjan Sabha Gruha, Sitabuldi in Nagpur, a mass meeting was organised on 30th April. The meeting was presided over by Com. Baburam Dhote, a noted freedom fighter of Madhya Pradesh. Comrade Shankar Singh, member, Central Committee, was the main speaker. Com. P. R. Harne, in-charge, Maharashtra State Organising Committee, also addressed.

In his long analytical speech Comrade Shankar Singh discussed the significance of observing the foundation day in the background of the First All India Congress of the party. 'The struggle released by the party and the events that followed the Founding Convention of 1948 have proved that the line and approach of the party founded by the Great Leader of the Proletariat, a foremost Marxist thinker, of the Era, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, is correct', Comrade Singh pointed out. He further explained: 'For fighting over demands of the workers, peasants and other exploited masses mass organisations are sufficient. But to coordinate these struggles with a revolutionary orientation and orga-

nise the revolutionary battle to overthrow the exploitative capitalist order and establish the working class dictatorship to advance society to the goal of communism a revolutionary party is an essential prerequisite.'

Com. Singh pointed out that the undivided CPI and later the break-way parties like the CPI (M) and the various Naxalite groups could not develop into a genuine revolutionary party of the Indian proletariat. 'Thus the task devolves on us, the SUCI, to free the masses from the influence of the sham Marxist parties. Without accomplishing this task it is not possible to advance the cause of the revolutionary movement.' He showed how personalities like S. A. Dange, B. T. Randive and S. M. Joshi had fallen, causing harm to the progressive movement in the State. Com. Singh explained how a genuine working class party was necessary to build and lead the struggle of the toiling masses to their cherished goal and keep the banner of revolution and communism flying high. He appealed to the people to strengthen the SUCI to win their emancipation from exploitation of all sorts.

Com. Baburao Dhote appealed to the people to participate in the revolutionary struggle and not fall victim of parliamentary politics.

The Bombay City Committee of the party organised a public meeting on 24th April at the Bombay Union of Journalists Hall.

Speaking at the meeting, Com. P. R. Harne pointed out that it was due to the failure of Left parties that the communal forces like the Shiv Sena were gaining ground in Maharashtra, the cradle of trade union movement in the country. The Congress(I), to stay in power, was nurturing these forces overtly and covertly. Com. Harne appealed to the people to unite to resist the menace of allout fascism looming over the horizon in the country's political scene.

Comrade Hiren Bose, member, Bombay City Organising Committee, and Com. Madan Kumar Jha, in-charge of the Committee, also spoke. A large number of party workers, supporters and sympathisers attended.

ORISSA

At many places in the State the party foundation day was observed amid enthusiasm and dedication to the cause. At Rourkela, on 20th April, a meeting of party workers, supporters, sympathisers was held in front of the party office in the town. Comrade Tapas Dutta, member, Central Committee, and Secretary, Orissa State Committee of the party addressed the gathering. Explaining the major conclusions of the international and national theses adopted at the Party Congress, Comrade Dutta cautioned the people against the danger of modern revisionism swamping the international communist movement and the danger of allout fascism looming over the country's

horizon. Explaining the duties and responsibilities of the party workers in the present situation he called upon the people to step forward to build up a countrywide broadbased united democratic mass movement against the fascist design of the ruling bourgeoisie and its most trusted political agent, the Congress(I) headed, by Rajiv Gandhi. The meeting ended with the *INTERNATIONALE*.

Before the meeting a big procession of working people was taken out.

At Cuttack the foundation day was observed on 24th April at the Saheed Bhawan where a large number of people from different walks of life had gathered on the occasion. Before the meeting began a big procession marched through the main thoroughfares of the city. Comrade Raghunath Das presided over the meeting and Com. Prativa Mukherjee a Central Staff and member, West Bengal State Secretariat, was the main speaker. Discussing the urgency of building up unity of all Left, democratic and Opposition parties and forces on a minimum agreed programme and a common code of conduct, Com. Mukherjee called upon the people to build up united democratic movements against the anti-people policies of the Central Congress(I) Government.

Intensive campaign and group sittings marked the observance of the party foundation day at Sukinda. Party flag was hoisted at the party office and comrades wore Comrade Shibdas Ghosh badge.

M.P.

At Bhopal a rally was held on 25th April to observe the foundation day. Com. K. D. Sharma presided. Com. Tapas Dutta, member, Central Committee, and main speaker on the occasion, discussed the significance of observance of the party foundation day. Referring to the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and the roles of the multi-national company Union Carbide and the Government of India, Com. Dutta observed that the people wondered if this tragedy was not the outcome of planned experi-

ments on human life. Referring to the Sri Lankan issue and the role of the India Government, he observed that it was manifestation of the imperialist character of the ruling bourgeoisie of India.

Com. Sharma spoke on the significance of observance of the party foundation day and the meeting ended with the *INTERNATIONALE*.

DELHI

The party foundation day was observed in the capital on 27th April at the Constitution Club Hall amid great enthusiasm. People from different walks of life attended and listened to the speakers in rapt attention. In the beginning *THE GREAT LEADER OF THE PROLETARIAT* was sung. Com. J. Sinha presided. Comrade Asutosh Banerjee, member, Central Committee, delivering his address as the main speaker on the occasion, analysed the country's political situation in the background of the present international situation. Pointing to the bourgeois design to drive the country to allout fascism, Com. Banerjee explained the historic significance of the emergence of the SUCI 40 years back and the task devolving on it at the present juncture. He stressed the urgency for all Left, democratic and Opposition parties to unite on a common agreed programme and code of conduct to fight the menace of fascism.

Com. Gyan Singh, Secretary, Haryana State Committee, addressed the gathering, urging the people to strengthen the SUCI in order to accomplish the revolutionary task ahead.

The meeting ended with the singing of the *INTERNATIONALE*.

KERALA

A State level central rally was held at Alleppey on 25th April, preceded by a big procession marching through the main streets of the town and converging on the Municipal ground in the evening. AIDS volunteers in uniform marched in the front ranks of the procession.

The meeting began with the singing of the *GREAT LEADER OF THE PROLETARIAT* followed by (Contd. on page 4)

(Contd. from page 3)

presentation of a guard of honour by AIDS O volunteers.

Com. C. K. 'Lukose, Secretary of the Kerala State Committee, who presided over the meeting stressed the need to fight resolutely all kinds of revisionist tendencies in the international communist movement and within the country.

Com. Sukomal Dasgupta, member, Central Committee, and main speaker on the occasion, began his address by pointing to the source of strength of the SUCI which had no MPs or ministers but at whose call lakhs of people had rallied at the Brigade Parade Ground in Calcutta on the occasion of the open session of the First Congress of the party. 'Marxism is invincible', he stressed, 'it is the science of all sciences, developing continuously along with the development of the different branches of science.' Pointing to the erroneous analyses of the CPI(M) and the CPI about the class character of the Congress(I) Comrade Dasgupta showed, as explained by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, that Indian capitalism had acquired monopoly character even before the independence and, through merger of industrial and banking capital, had given birth to financial oligarchy to acquire an imperialist character. The involvement of the Indian military in Sri Lanka was a glaring example of this imperialist character of Indian capitalism.

Exposing the Central Congress(I) Government's move to bring in regimentation in the thought process and cultural - social-educational spheres through its new National Education Policy and other similar measures, he called upon the people to unite to resist this fascist conspiracy at any cost. 'It is the paramount task today to build up broadbased democratic movements by uniting all Left, democratic and Opposition forces against the Congress(I) Govt. But the CPI(M) and the CPI are obstructing efforts to this end, making the plea that the BJP is a communal party. The same CPI(M) and CPI had no inhibi-

tion, however, to combine with the BJP at the Haryana Assembly elections. They are not willing to combine with the SUCI. Do they consider us a communal force?' Comrade Dasgupta asked and urged the people to strive for achieving the unity. The meeting ended with the INTERNATIONALE.

TAMIL NADU

The foundation day observance in the State culminated in a mass meeting held in Madras on 26th April. Com. Jagannathan, Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Committee, presided. Com. Krishna Chakraborty, member, Central Committee, was the main speaker. Com. James Joseph, a Central Staff of the party, was present as a speaker.

Dwelling on the historic significance of the First Congress of the party recently held in Calcutta, Com. Chakraborty observed that the Party Congress had laid down the task for the people in the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat. Analysing the situation in Tamil Nadu, he showed that the Central Congress (I) Government's present policy in regard to this State was interlinked with its imperialist policy on the Sri Lankan issue. He appealed to the people to give a fitting rebuff to the machinations of the Congress (I) to grab governmental power in the State by building up powerful mass movements and to strengthen the SUCI, the only force of mass movement in the country today, in the interest of mass movement.

Com. James Joseph also reminded the urgency of building up mass movements to carry out the task set forth by the Party Congress. Com. Narayanasamy, member, Tamil Nadu State Committee, also spoke.

GUJARAT

The Gujarat State Unit of the party organised a public meeting at the Gujarati Sahityo Parisad Seminar Hall in Ahmeda-

24th April in States

bad on 3rd May to observe the fortieth party foundation anniversary. Com. Dwarikanath Rath, in-charge of the State Unit, presided and Com. Krishna Chakraborty, member, Central Committee, was the main speaker. A large number of people attended the meeting and the Hall was packed in full.

Discussing the national situation, Com. Chakraborty drew attention to the erroneous analysis of the CPI, CPI(M) and other so-called Marxist-Leninist groups regarding the characterisation of the present Indian society and the stage of revolution. He showed, in the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, that the Indian State was not only a capitalist State but had become a junior partner of the imperialist bloc. Reminding the teaching of Com. Ghosh that fascism had become a general feature of all the capitalist countries in the present phase of third intense general crisis of capitalism, he pointed to the danger of all-out fascism looming over the country and emphasised the need to form a broad-based united platform of Left, democratic and Opposition, parties and forces against the fascist onslaughts of the Congress (I) Government led by Rajiv Gandhi.

Com. B. K. Shah, in-charge of the Ahmedabad City Unit of the party, reminded the call given from the Party Congress in Calcutta to undertake all-out preparation to fulfil the historic task of the party.

Com. Rath, referring to the spate of severe drought gripping many areas in the country, called upon the people to build up movements against the indifferent attitude and corrupt practices of the Government.

In the beginning THE GREAT LEADER OF THE PROLETARIAT was sung by the MSS music squad and the meeting ended with the INTERNATIONALE. A video show of the Party Congress was held thereafter.

ASSAM

A mass meeting was held on 24th April at Nabin Bardolui hall in Guwahati to observe the party foundation day. Com. Kalyan Choudhury, Secretary, Assam State Committee, presided and Com. Asit Bhattacharya, member, Central Committee, was the main speaker.

Analysing the present socio-political-economic situation of the country, Com. Bhattacharya criticised strongly the anti-people policies of the AGP Government of Assam. He pointed out that the AGP, which had come to governmental power in the State availing of the absence of powerful democratic mass movements and the relatively lower level of consciousness of the people, was pursuing the same pro-capitalist anti-people policies and measures as had been done by the preceding Congress Governments of the State. The AGP was engaged in maintaining any how its sway on the State with the patronage of the capitalists and other reactionary forces. To channelise the people's discontent it was raising chauvinist slogans while virtually declaring a war against the people as evident from its anti-people policies including the recent bus fare hike by over 40 per cent. On the other hand, as a reaction to the sectarian and chauvinist policies of the AGP, separatist tendencies were rising among the tribal people and the ruling bourgeoisie was trying to reap dividends from the disunity of the people. Com. Bhattacharya appealed to the tribal people to see through the conspiracy of the ruling class and not fall prey to sectarian and chauvinist politics and join the mainstream of anti-capitalist class and mass struggles being waged by the toiling people all over the country. 'This is the way to win your demands. There is no alternative to it,' he pointed out.

In a brief speech Com. Jainal Abedin appealed to the people to boycott the enhanced bus fare and demand of the Government withdraw-

al of the increased fare structure.

A.P.

A mass meeting was held on 30th April at the maidan near Khairabad railway station in Hyderabad. Intensive campaign preceded the meeting and a fund collection drive was undertaken. The meeting started with the singing of the GREAT LEADER OF THE PROLETARIAT and thereafter Com. Murahari, in charge of the Hyderabad unit of the party, addressed the gathering. Com. Sri-dhar, Secretary of the Andhra Pradesh State Organising Committee, emphasised the need to build up a united democratic mass movement throughout the country as the only alternative before the people.

Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, a Central Staff and main speaker on the occasion, addressed the gathering, emphasising that for revolution to be brought about a genuine revolutionary party was essential. 'The SUCI built up on the edifice of proletarian culture and ethics by the great leader of the proletariat, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, has been working for the revolutionary transformation of our society.' Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee appealed to the people to emulate the spirit of martyrs like Bhagat Singh and Kshudiram and participate in politics not to gain something in return but to fight against injustice, oppression and exploitation.

At Nellore a mass meeting was held on 25th April. Com. Rasheed, member, State Secretariat, presided and Com. Ramesh Patnaik, member, State Secretariat, was the main speaker. They urged the people to strengthen the SUCI to advance their revolutionary cause. The meeting ended with the INTERNATIONALE.

TRIPURA

A public meeting was held at the Town Hall in Agartala on 24th April. Com. Milan Majumdar, presiding over the meeting, discussed the significance of observing the SUCI Day. Com. Chhaya Mukherjee, the main speaker at the meeting, showed how the SUCI had grown as the only genuine communist (Contd. on page 6)

AICC(I) SESSION IN MADRAS

Story of inept leadership and least concern for people

Grandeur and gimmicks — all were there to the extreme. A huge pandal for the meetings, a high and bullet-proof decorated rostrum, microphones all around, reception counters here and there, hoardings and posters bedecking the city, air-conditioned huts specially built and multi-star hotels booked for housing and feeding the 'h' delegates! But one thing lacked — a minor thing though — which delayed the AICC(I) session this year held in Marai Malainagar city of Tamil Nadu; the audience under the pandal was too poor to start with! Let alone others, about half of the Congress(I) MPs even could not turn up. So PTC buses and lorries were hired and people, mainly rural folks, were cajoled into the pandals to fill in the blanks—with the assurance of free meals and some pocket money!

Yes, what it is, if not a gimmick, to name the venue of the session after Kamraj, the last president of the undivided Congress, when Smt. Indira Gandhi broke with the leadership then existing and formed her new party branding Kamraj and the like as "reactionary old guards" and assuring her new radical postures. Even she did not hesitate to collude with the then undivided DMK at the State Assembly elections to corner the Kamraj-led Congress(O) whereby DMK (and later ADMK) rose to power ousting Congress(I) for the last two decades. Apprehensions were aloud in Tamil Nadu that, this time, in view of the faction-fight in the ranks of the AIADMK between Janaki and Jayalalitha groups as regards succession of MGR, the Congress(I) looked forward, hopefully, to come back to the State governmental seat, wooing the Tamil voters' sentiment by Srilanka operation and using Kamraj's image — whatever it is worth! No doubt, it is a sample of Congress(I)-brand of "principled politics" as Mr. Rajiv Gandhi declared in the session! Howl down, or, hail up a man — as it suits the moment.

Congress sessions had a past. They had been a matter of serious political importance for the country before independence. Although the Gandhite leaders acted on behalf of the rising Indian big bourgeoisie — as their performance and preachings proved on critical analysis — still they showed some serious con-

cern for politics, for the country, as far as it was possible for them within the ambit of their class role. But where have these present leaders landed themselves today in course of degradation in standard and principles over the years? The delegates today do not feel the importance of attending sessions. Chaos and indiscipline — typical of 'Congress Culture' reigns supreme over the proceedings. The leaders cannot draft anything themselves. The presidential address had been reportedly drafted by the Secretary to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, a foreign service officer was found often closeted with the Congress(I) leaders — perhaps to provide "last minute suggestions", as and when required on the dais, although, on being asked by the media men whether he had already joined the party, he quipped, "Not yet." What happens, when these leaders are to comment on anything extempore was exemplified by Mr. Gandhi in his puerile advice to the Marxists of the country not to follow a book of Marx "seventy years old" and backdated. Evidently, he was not rehearsed well or at all that the book 'Capital' was published in 1867, more than 120 years back. Whether that book has become out of date or not is another matter but nobody would dare to undertake with those ignoramuses. Moreover, our concern is not over the literacy level of the Congress(I) hierarchy which is quite justified, as the big-

gest and longest ruling party of the country, to represent the literacy scenario of the people. People are worried at the growing direct coalescence of the ruling parties with the bureaucracy, a standing organ of the bourgeois state, which is paving the way to administrative fascism.

While the Congress(I) chief had been clamouring about their "principled politics" and defence minister Mr. K. C. Pant had the other day misinformed the parliament about so-called absence of any middleman and non-payment of kick-backs in the Bofors deal, the Hindu, a daily published from Madras, came out with an authentic report containing documents to prove the fact of commission agents being involved in the deal. The Swedish Radio also confirmed the news contemporaneously. Did that change the AICC(I) leaders' attitude to the question involved? They simply showered new torrents of abuses on the press and the opposition! As if that cleansed their hands!

A Sub-Committee was appointed to furnish the PM - cum - Congress (I) President with some new bluffing stock.

An air was created the previous day as if he would declare something palatable to countrymen in general and the people of Tamil Nadu in particular. And what Mr. Gandhi pattered at last from the rostrum was no new slogans — "Bekari Hatao (abolish unemployment)"! Quite logical on his part. He cannot but admit that the old slogans of the Congress raised by his maternal grandfather and then his mother like "Socialistic pattern of society", "Democratic Socialism", "Garibi Hatao (abolish poverty)" "abolish unemployment" have become too stale, too patrid to be repeated even by the most orthodox his master's voice of the party in the face of cruel facts. Nehruite and Indirite socialism, of which Mr.

Gandhi is the latest pilot, requires raising slogans of "abolish poverty, abolish unemployment" over and again simply because it goes on creating and aggravating those problems in people's life to fill the coffers of the monopoly houses. But let alone the impossibility of solving these problems under capitalism, sustained under whatever name, did the PM seriously mean the slogan? Is he not aware how his government's massive programme of automation and computerisation, not only in the private houses, in the public sector too — in the P & T, Railway, Coal, Steel etc. — is going to render millions of already employed manpower jobless, threatened with retrenchment on golden handshake? (Accepting voluntary premature retirement the salaries and other benefits to be due at the end of the full service terms being paid, on pain of retrenchment otherwise — Ed. P. Era.) While the registered unemployed stand at a figure of three million people, the actual unemployment size including the rural unemployed, partly employed, self-employed (hawkers etc.) and pseudo-employed would total no less than ten million. By squeezing the already shrunk job-market by the active governmental measures including moratorium on recruitment to fill up the millions of vacancies in the central Government offices and Public sector industries throughout the country — described as policies to switch over to the 21st Century — how will his Government abolish unemployment? And how can he, knowing all this, utter such trashes from the highest policy-formulating forum of his party? Of course, the only answer may be — this is why the forum.

The question that haunts every right thinking mind is how such a party and leadership can remain in power for so long in a country with so vast multitude of people. The people believes hardly anything that comes from here. The only reason is that the opposition is in complete disarray to build up a serious mass movement against such a corrupt, degenerate and imbecile force in power. They are much more worried over who is to suc-

Comrade
Prithvi Chanda's
Statement

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provisions are included to punish striking workers and leaders.

All this is being done at a time when the Rajiv Government is inviting imperialist multi-nationals to loot our people, giving more and more concessions to capitalists, causing price-rise, high rate of inflation, un-employment and poverty.

Even when the Central Labour Minister is posing to hold so-called consultation with us — the Central Trade Unions, the Prime Minister has declared on 1st May his government's determination to get the bill passed in the current session of the Parliament.

The United Trade Union Centre (Lenin Sarani) strongly condemns both these bills and asks the government to desist from enacting such anti-labour bills. The UTUC (LS) also urges all democratic minded people to come forward in mighty united movements to fight back such fascist acts of the Rajiv Government.

The UTUC(LS) along with other trade unions in the N. C. C. shall organise a massive demonstration in Delhi on 10th May to voice working class protest against such black bills."

ceed Rajiv if the chance comes. The CPI-CPI(M) lobby is more concerned with keeping a "secular face" — as defined by the Congress(I) — than with building up a countrywide mighty movement uniting all opposition forces against the Rajiv Government, so that Indian capitalism is not untimely confronted with the problem of choice of a new henchman for it.

So this AICC(I) session, if anything, once more points out the urgent necessity to develop a united movement of all opposition forces against the Congress (I) regime, against its anti-people, corrupt and pro-monopoly policies!

Anti-bus fare hike movement in Assam

(Contd. from page 1)
should bear the brunt of the Government's callous, corrupt and abominable failure? The AGP government kept mum before our concrete but scathing criticism. It became all the more clear that true to its pro-capitalist policies, the AGP Government took this anti-people measure simply to appease the owners of the buses.

Our party tried hard to unite all the Left and democratic parties and forces working in the State to fight unitedly against this anti-people steep price hike in bus fares. Unfortunately none of the Left and Opposition parties, including the CPI and the CPI(M), came forward to develop any form of protest movement.

Our party then took up the cause of the people of its own and took initiative to develop resistance movement against unprecedented bus fare increase and made appeals to the democratic minded people to come forward behind this movement. Sooner than later, the people took up the cause and began increasingly to burst forth against this anti-people policy in different parts of the state including the very heart of the capital, Guwahati itself. Lest the people get organised under the leadership of the SUCI, the All Assam Students' Union, pressed by our organised movement, demonstrated a show of fight to save its face. The people no doubt enjoyed the face saving dilemma of the

AASU! We have already reported, briefly, in the earlier issue how dastardly attacks were brought down on the massive peaceful procession led by Comrade Kalyan Chowdhury, Secretary, Assam State Committee of our party marching towards the State Legislature denouncing the decision of the unprecedented bus fare hike when Comrade Chowdhury, along with large number of participants, in the mass rally received serious injuries. In the face of increasing people's resistance spreading daily far and wide, the AGP Government resorted to a trickery to deceive the people but nonetheless was forced to come down and announced a revised reduced rate of bus fares. Whereas in the name of

giving relief by way of reduction of fare by 2½ paise in place of 4 paise hike for ordinary buses per 1 km, 80 P. per 8 km against Re. 1, for city buses it announced no reduction in cases of Express/Deluxe buses which are not only used by maximum number of commuters, but which the commuters had to use, more often than not, like the ordinary buses and needless to say, the number of such Express/Deluxe buses plying on the roads far exceeds the other categories. Our party, in no time, exposed the trickery of the Govt. and exposed its pretentious move to be-fool the people.

In the next phase, our party called for civil disobedience movement at the district levels for the consecutive three days—9-11 May. Thousands of volunteers courted arrest during this period in different dis-

tricts and the people very much appreciated the role of our party. The people were in a fine mood to go in for sustained movements till the victory is achieved. It is a sorry tale to tell that when the AGP Government came down heavily on the peaceful marchers denying even right to peacefully demonstrate, the repeated calls of our party to the left and democratic parties of the State to unitedly fight back the government's anti-people policy, continued to fall on their deaf ears! The present excellent situation prevailing in the State calls for further skipping up of the on-going movements to a still higher pitch and our party is now engaged with all out efforts to conduct the movement to its desired end by raising People's Committees' and enrolling volunteer corps right from the grass-roots levels.

24th April in States

(Contd. from page 4)
party on the Indian soil. Emphasising the urgency of forging unity of all Left, democratic and Opposition parties and forces to foil the fascist design of the Congress(I), she observed that the social democratic parties like the CPI(M) and the CPI were objectively safeguarding the Congress(I). She appealed to the people to strengthen the SUCI for the sake of class and mass struggles — the only way to safeguard the people's interest. The meeting ended with the INTERNATIONALE.

BIHAR

Besides at Ghatsila, Patna and other places the foundation day was observed with due solemnity at Begusarai on 26th April. Com. Ramanuj Singh presided. Comrade Amriteshwar Chakraborty, Secretary, Bihar State Committee, garlanded the portrait of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Addressing the gathering, Com. Chakraborti drew attention to the task to be carried out by the party comrades in the present international and national situation. Comrade Ramasrai Singh of

AIKKMS, Com. Ram K. Vidyarthi of AIDS and Com. Ravindra Singh, in-charge of the District Unit of the party, also spoke.

U.P.

The foundation day was observed at many places in the State with enthusiasm and dedication. The Jaunpur District Committee organised a mass meeting at the Baharipur Primary School premises on 24th April. Com. Syam Bahadur Singh presided and Com. V. N. Singh, Secretary, U.P. State Committee was the main speaker. Com. D. K. Dubey also spoke.

Another mass meeting held on 24th April at the Junior High School, Ghur Daur, Kerakal, was presided over by Com. Mani Sankar Singh, State Secretary of the AIKKMS. Com. Jagadish Chandra Asthana, Secretary, Jaunpur District Committee, was the main speaker. Com. Ram Dayal Pal also spoke.

On 25th April a mass meeting was held at Sujanganj. Com. Ram yass Yadav presided and Com. V. N. Singh was the main speaker. The other speaker

was Com. Sripal Dubey.

A group sitting at Jaunpur town on 30th April was addressed by Com. Asthana and presided over by Com. Omkarnath Sastry.

In Pratapgarh district a rally was held on 20th April at Tahsil Head quarter Patti. Com. Bachan Ali, Secretary, Pratapgarh District Committee, presided and Com. Jagadish Chandra Asthana was the main speaker. Com. D. K. Dubey, member, State Committee also spoke.

In Sultanpur district a mass meeting was held on 24th April at Dubeypur Block Headquarter. Com. Viswakarma presided and Com. Jagannath Verma, State Secretary, AIDS, was the main speaker.

KARNATAKA

A mass meeting was held at Gokhale Institute for Public Affair in Bangalore on 29th April. Com. K Radhakrishna, State Secretary, Karnataka presided and Com. Krishna Chakraborti was the main speaker. Com. Venkatesh also spoke. The meeting started with singing of THE GREAT LEADER OF THE PROLETARIAT and concluded with the INTERNATIONALE.

MADRAS

Movement for Women's Emancipation

Mahalir Kalachara Sangam (MKS), a Women's cultural organisation, conducted a seminar on women's emancipation in Madras at Mahajana Saba in which, besides a large number of ladies, quite a big number of men including prominent individuals diverse disciplines participated.

The seminar began with a speech by Sm. Saraswathy Govindasajan, Prof. St. Queen Mary's College, Madras. She explained how the present patriarchal society oppressed women and pointed out at the same time that for the liberation of womenfolk in this society, women should unite, fight for equal rights and for this all women's organisations should stand on one platform to fight against injustice on women.

Prof. Govindasajan was followed by Sm. Rajan Krishnan, eminent Tamil Novelist who spoke as to how television, radio, cinema, etc., were engaged in propagating a vulgar culture which, for all practical purposes, was degrad-

ing the culture of women. So, they should have to be prepared themselves to face and eventualities in their crusade against obscenity and assaults on womanhood.

Com. Uma Sherif, Adviser, MSS, wished all success to seminar conducted by MKS.

Com. Chhaya Mukherjee explained how this class divided capitalist society was exploiting men and women alike, womenfolk were being exploited doubly in this society—by the capitalist system as also under the male domination. She concluded, advancing through her thought provoking discussion, that only under socialism—in the scientific socialist society alone—women could enjoy equally with men in all-round uninterrupted development. She appealed to the participants to play their due role in the task of winning emancipation of women.

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